

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785

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October 13, 2000

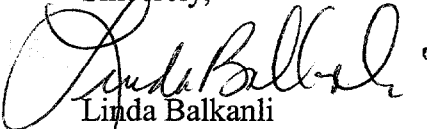
Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you today to ask you to put an end to the downed animal trade. I am urging you to grant Farm Sanctuary's petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals – **Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1**.

Existing USDA regulations define downed animals as "diseased" and the law prohibits the slaughter of diseased animals. This petition argues that the current practice of slaughtering downed animals for human consumption must stop. Not only is there an increased risk of bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some animals may be afflicted with a form BSE.

Also, it has been known for some time that treatment of downed animals by stockyards is cruel and inhumane. These are animals that are too sick or injured to walk. The animals are dragged with chains, kicked or pushed with forklifts to the slaughter house, sold at auction (for as little as \$1), or left to die a lonely, painful and slow death. This petition, in part, would be an incentive in preventing downed animals.

Sincerely,



Linda Balkanli

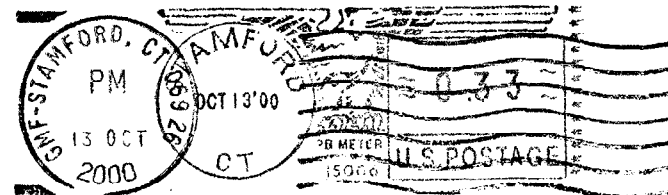
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